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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/634,902	08/06/2003	Stephen K. Sunter	LVPAT061US	7335
26668	7590	08/24/2004	EXAMINER	
LOGICVISION (CANADA), INC. 1565 CARLING AVENUE, SUITE 508 OTTAWA, ON K1Z 8R1 CANADA			NGUYEN, TUNG X	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2829	

DATE MAILED: 08/24/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center"><b>Office Action Summary</b></p>	<p>Application No.</p> <p>10/634,902</p>	<p>Applicant(s)</p> <p>SUNTER, STEPHEN K.</p>	
	<p>Examiner</p> <p>Tung X Nguyen</p>	<p>Art Unit</p> <p>2829</p>	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on the elective response filed 7/13/04.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10-12 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 7-9 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Election/Restrictions***

1. Applicant's election with traverse of Group I (claims 1-9) in the reply filed on 07/13/04 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that the resulting process is "materially" different from that of claim 10 is clear evidence that the process contemplated by the Examiner is not "materially" different from that of claim 10". This is not found persuasive because the product can not be used to practice the process of use they are independent claims 1 and 10, for example, the detail of independent process of use of claim 10 of "sensing the voltage on the circuit node, applying a first stimulus voltage to the circuit node, and applying a second stimulus voltage to the circuit node" is different materially from the detail of independent product claim 1 of "a circuit comprising switching means for conveying a force voltage, switching means for conveying a sense voltage, amplifier means for adjusting the force voltage, storing means, and means for selectively simultaneously enabling both of the switching means". Therefore, the product and process of use having different operation, different functions or different effects.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

***Claim Objections***

2. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

As to claim 1, are the switching means being recited in lines 3, 5 the same?

Appropriate correction is required.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Admitted Prior Art in Figs. 1-2 and in view of Hashimoto (u.s.p 6,313,657).

As to claims 1, Admitted Prior Art in Figs. 1-2 disclose a circuit for accurately delivering a first stimulus voltage to one or more circuit nodes of an IC, the circuit comprising: switching means (28) within the IC for conveying a force voltage (Force path) to one of said circuit nodes (12, 14); another switching means (another part of 28) for conveying a sense voltage (Sense path) from the one of the circuit nodes (12, 14); an amplifier means (26, 36) for adjusting the force voltage to cause the sense voltage to equal the stimulus voltage; a storage means (64 of fig. 1) for storing a voltage difference between the force voltage and the sense voltage; Admitted Prior Art does not teach a means for selectively simultaneously enabling both of the switching means to enable the first stimulus voltage. However, Hashimoto discloses in Fig. 7, a means (controller 50) for selectively simultaneously enabling both of the switching means (S1, S2 of figure 7) for selectively simultaneously enabling both of the switching means (S1, S2) to test the integrated circuit (IC 10). It would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Admitted Prior Art, and provide the means (controller 50), as taught by Hashimoto, for selectively

Art Unit: 2829

simultaneously enabling both of the switching means (S1, S2) to test the integrated circuit (IC 10).

As to claim 2, Admitted Prior Art discloses the switching means (28) for selectively applying a second stimulus voltage to the circuit node (12, 14 of figure 1, or 32, 34 of figure 2) whenever the first stimulus voltage is not being delivered to the circuit node (via 26, or 36).

As to claim 3, Admitted Prior Art discloses the switching means (28) including transmission gates (Relay 28).

As to claim 4, Hashimoto discloses in Fig. 7 the switching means (S1, S2) being selectively controlled by a periodic signal (produce by controller 50).

As to claim 5, Hashimoto discloses in col. 6, lines 32-40, the periodic signal for each of the switching means having different timing for rising and falling edges (VOH, VOL col. 7, lines 1-5).

As to claim 6, Admitted Prior Art discloses in Figs. 1-2, the storage mans being a capacitor (64 of figure 1).

### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

5. Claims 7-9 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

As to claims 7-8, the prior art does not teach the integrated circuit having a scan register having a scan bit associated with the one of the circuit nodes wherein the switching means enabled by the scan bit and a periodic signal.

As to claims 9, the prior art does not teach the second amplifier means for sensing and forcing the second stimulus voltage.

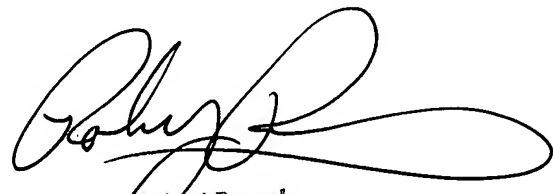
### ***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tung X Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-1967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am-5:00pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Tokar can be reached on (571) 272-1812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TN  
8/16/04



Robert Pascal  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800